

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~

EYES ONLY

TOP SECRET 101622Z NOV 71 SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY  
EYES ONLY VIA CAS CHANNELS  
FROM: HARRY A. KISSINGER  
TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER, SAIGON  
CITE: WHSI132

NOVEMBER 10, 1971

THE PRESIDENT HAS NOW DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE NEXT TROOP WITHDRAWAL ANNOUNCEMENT AT NOON, WASHINGTON TIME, ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12. THE ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE LIMITED TO CONFIRMATION OF HIS DECISION TO STEP UP THE RATE OF WITHDRAWAL TO 20,000 P.R. MONTH FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER AND JANUARY AND NOT GO BEYOND THAT. THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO DISCUSSION OF TERMINATION OF COMBAT ACTIVITY, TERMINATION OF DRAFT, OR OTHER DETAILS WHICH WOULD TEND TO TRANSLATE THEMSELVES INTO ADDITIONAL COMMITMENTS FOR THE FUTURE. HE WILL PROBABLY CONFIRM THAT HE WILL HAVE ANOTHER ANNOUNCEMENT SOMETIME IN JANUARY. ALL THIS, OF COURSE, CONFORMS TO THE GAM PLAN WHICH HAIG DESCRIBED TO YOU IN DETAIL AND TO PRESIDENT THIEN IN GENERAL TERMS.

I WILL INFORM YOU SHORTLY ON THE DETAILS OF THIS GAM PLAN AS IT UNFOLDS. IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE INFORM THIEN OF THE TIMING AND SCOPE OF FRIDAY'S TROOP WITHDRAWAL ANNOUNCEMENT, CAUTIONING HIM AS USUAL OF THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF THIS INFORMATION AND ABSOLUTE NEED TO MAINTAIN SECRECY UNTIL THE TIME OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT.

WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.

BT

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ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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